

**CARIBOO SKI TOURING CLUB**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

**In Attendance: 37 people.**

**Introduction of 2017/2018 Executive:**      President: Bruce Self  
Vice-President: Brian Kennelly  
Treasurer: Jaime Cappan  
Secretary: Charlotte Kurta

**Committee Reports: an overview of the Club's past year. Written reports attached at end of agenda.**

**1. President's Report. Bruce Self.**

Once again it has been a busy, productive, and fun ski year. After a slightly slow start we got an amazing amount of snow in mid-winter. This ensured that the ski school program was again a huge success, almost no cancellations or re-scheduling. Virtually every possible ski school day was used and the kids learned to ski. The club hosted the usual range of competitions: biathlon cup race, loppet, and kids races

We proceeded with the snow-making project and secured numerous grants to cover almost all of the costs. Since the snow has melted we have solidified the design and are proceeding with equipment purchases. In fact you may have noticed the new "C-can" just outside the lodge. This will house the air compressor and other equipment for snowmaking. The water pump will be located in an enclosure near the lake. We will be ready for making snow in a short while.

We suffered a drinking water shortage and accordingly drilled our well deeper. Sadly, this was to no avail and we didn't improve the supply. We have plans in place to secure potable water by means of a filter system. This project is ongoing.

Other infrastructure projects completed this year included grading of the stadium area to eliminate puddles.

The backcountry crew held firewood work bees and stocked all the cabins and additionally rebuilt the Mt Murray cabin's foundation, thanks in part to the heli-support from Dunkley Lumber for flying all the lumber into the site. Large numbers of people turned out to help on all of these projects.

I am very encouraged to note the demographic of participants both on projects and on the executive, seems to be decreasing in age. This is excellent news as some of us "old guys" are looking to pass the torch along.

It has been my privilege to serve as president for these 2 years, and I appreciate all the support I have gotten. I will be moving into the role of past president and snowmaking czar.

**2. Treasurer's Report. Jaimie Cappan. See financial statements attached.**

### **3. Manager's Report. Tania Gruene.**

The lodge and backcountry cabins are in good repair thanks to several work parties in September / October. The CSTC biggest strength continues to be the members who cumulatively volunteer thousands of hours every year to maintaining trails, track-setting and raising the community profile of the CSTC.

#### Elementary Ski School

This will be the seventh season of the Elementary school program. We have been fully subscribed for several years and are looking forward to having between 400-600 elementary students enjoy cross country ski lessons at Hallis Lake . In 2018 the CSTC ski school coaches logged approximately 500 hours introducing skiing to our community elementary schools!

Looking ahead:

All of our programs have the potential to grow. Initiative and energy from members and volunteers is critical to growth. CSTC has made growing our membership to 500 a priority. To that end we have revamped our website, and are focusing on integrating our social media, website and emails into a consistent look and package. We want to spread the word about the Hallis Lake Venue and the opportunities for some of the best cross country skiing in the province. We also see the emerging growth of snowshoeing and backcountry as a valuable part of our club and community.

### **4. Directors' Reports**

(See reports attached)

**A. Backcountry Report. Taylor Mastre.**

**B. Hallis Ski Tournament / Elementary Ski Races: Sunshine Borsato.**

**C. Club Historian. Evi Black.**

**D. Equipment. Jim Cappan.**

**E. Fundraising / Grant Applications. Brian Black / Marilyn van Leusden**

**F. Loppet. Elaine Watteyne.** Scheduled for Feb. 9, 2019.

**G. Membership. Greg Strebel.**

CSTC concluded the 2017/2018 season with 329 members (compared to 367 members in 2016/2017). As of the AGM October 25, 2018, the CSTC had 174 members signed up, compared to 177 at the time of the AGM last year (Oct 26, 2017).

**H. Nordics/Biathlon. Chris Elden.** BC Cup Race scheduled for Jan. 19-20, 2018.

**I. Publicity / Adult Lessons. Ron Watteyne.**

**J. Rental Shop / Lodge. Tania Gruene.**

**K. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.**

**L. Snowshoeing. Evi Black.**

**M. Social: Elaine Watteyne.**

**N. Trails & Signage. Brian Kennelly**

**O. Website. Shannon Coffey.**

**Motion to accept Committee Reports:** moved by Joe Daigle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Evi Black. All in favour.  
Carried.

**5. Election of Executive Officers:** Brian Black officiated.

1. President: Brian Kennelly
2. Vice President: Chris Hyde
3. Treasurer: Kelsey Berlinger
4. Secretary: Charlotte Kurta

All Executive Officers elected by acclamation.

**Signing Officers for CSTC Regular Account**

1. President Brian Kennelly  
206 Giesbrecht Road  
Quesnel BC V2J 5E8  
250-991-8709  
[briankennelly7@gmail.com](mailto:briankennelly7@gmail.com)
2. Vice President Christopher Hyde  
174 Coach Rd  
Quesnel BC V2J 5A2  
[chyde79@gmail.com](mailto:chyde79@gmail.com)  
250-983-8770
3. Treasurer Kelsey Berlinger  
#8 - 254 Warden St  
Quesnel, BC V2J 1C5  
250-991-2700  
[kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com)
4. Membership Director Gregory Strebel  
3641 Quesnel-Hydraulic Road  
Quesnel BC V2J6G4  
250-747-3586  
[gpstrebl@telus.net](mailto:gpstrebl@telus.net)

## Signing Officers for CSCT Gaming Account

1. President Brian Kennelly  
206 Giesbrecht Road  
Quesnel BC V2J 5E8  
250-991-8709  
[briankennelly7@gmail.com](mailto:briankennelly7@gmail.com)
2. Vice President Christopher Hyde  
174 Coach Rd  
Quesnel BC V2J 5A2  
[chyde79@gmail.com](mailto:chyde79@gmail.com)  
250-983-8770
3. Treasurer Kelsey Berlinger  
#8 - 254 Warden St  
Quesnel, BC V2J 1C5  
250-991-2700  
[kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com)

6. **Motion to accept the 2018 / 2019 list of Directors for the next year.** Motioned by Chris Hyde, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter van Leusden. All in favour. Carried.

**2018 / 2019 List of Directors:**

<b>Director</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Contact Info</b>
Brian Kennelly	<i>President</i>	<a href="mailto:briankennelly7@gmail.com">briankennelly7@gmail.com</a>
Chris Hyde	<i>Vice-President/SDP Director</i>	<a href="mailto:chyde79@gmail.com">chyde79@gmail.com</a>
Kelsey Berlinger	<i>Treasurer</i>	<a href="mailto:kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com">kelsey.berlinger@gmail.com</a>
Charlotte Kurta	<i>Secretary and Governance</i>	<a href="mailto:chkurta@gmail.com">chkurta@gmail.com</a>
Bruce Self	<i>Past President/Snowmaking Director</i>	<a href="mailto:bushytat@gmail.com">bushytat@gmail.com</a>
Greg Strebel	<i>Membership / Registrar Director</i>	<a href="mailto:gpstreb1@telus.net">gpstreb1@telus.net</a>
Jim Capan/Mike McLaughlin	<i>Equipment &amp; Grooming Director</i>	<a href="mailto:capanjrj@gmail.com">capanjrj@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:mikemac2@telus.net">mikemac2@telus.net</a>
Sunshine Borsato	<i>Ski Tournament Director</i>	<a href="mailto:sunshineborsato@hotmail.com">sunshineborsato@hotmail.com</a>
Brian Black	<i>Grant Writer</i>	<a href="mailto:bnblack01@gmail.com">bnblack01@gmail.com</a>
Marilyn van Leusden	<i>Grant Writer</i>	<a href="mailto:marilyn.vl@hotmail.com">marilyn.vl@hotmail.com</a>
Jim Crellin	<i>Nordics/Biathlon Director</i>	<a href="mailto:acrellin@quesnelbc.com">acrellin@quesnelbc.com</a>
Chris Elden	<i>Nordics/Biathlon Director</i>	<a href="mailto:porcupin@Quesnelbc.com">porcupin@Quesnelbc.com</a>
Shannon Coffey	<i>Website Director</i>	<a href="mailto:shannon.coffey@icloud.com">shannon.coffey@icloud.com</a>
Taylor Mastre	<i>Backcountry Director</i>	<a href="mailto:taylormastre@hotmail.com">taylormastre@hotmail.com</a>
Vicki Esplen	<i>School Program Director</i>	<a href="mailto:cvesplen@telus.net">cvesplen@telus.net</a>
Peter van Leusden	<i>Coaching Coordinator Director</i>	<a href="mailto:vanleusdenp@gmail.com">vanleusdenp@gmail.com</a>
Elaine Watteyne	<i>Social Director</i>	<a href="mailto:threewatts@shaw.ca">threewatts@shaw.ca</a>
Ron Watteyne	<i>Adult Lessons &amp; Publicity Director</i>	<a href="mailto:threewatts@shaw.ca">threewatts@shaw.ca</a>
Neil Mackay	<i>Ski Trails and Signs Director</i>	<a href="mailto:neilmackay@fortisbc.ca">neilmackay@fortisbc.ca</a>
Joe Daigle	<i>Snowshoe Trails Director</i>	<a href="mailto:smokinjoedaig@hotmail.com">smokinjoedaig@hotmail.com</a>
Tania Gruene	<i>Club Manager and Coordinator</i>	<a href="mailto:tgruene@shaw.ca">tgruene@shaw.ca</a>

**7. End of Annual General Meeting.**

Special Presentation: John Courtney. Hiking the Great Divide Trail

## Appendices: Director's Reports.

### A. 2018 Backcountry Report

It has been a busy year in the backcountry!

The year was kicked off with an Introduction to Backcountry trip to the Cariboo Mtn cabin. Despite the -33 celsius morning, 8 very brave and very insane people attended. I'm very glad that they did, as 7/8 later attended the very important Mt Murray cabin work party in October.

#### **Mt Murray cabin –**

A new 100lbs propane tank was delivered via helicopter last winter. The empty propane tank was hauled out with ropes the following weekend. It is currently being stored in my shed until I hear differently.

I have been slowly removing excess junk from the cabin. During every trip I try to take out as much clutter as possible. This process will continue.

October 21st work party had an amazing turnout with 24 attendees. Bruce Self organized all of the materials needed for the work party and did a great job assessing what the project would need to get completed. He delivered the materials to Dunkley Lumber, to have the material flown in at the convenience of the pilot. The material was delivered two days before the work party. The cabin has a brand new foundation thanks to the impressive teamwork and collective knowledge of Tyler Klassen, Dave Jorgenson and Arnold Kilsby. The original foundation proved nearly improbable to remove entirely, so it is still under the cabin but is not weight bearing. The original foundation was placed about 6 inches in from the sidewalls of the cabin. This made it easier to place the new 6x6 foundation runners directly beside it, flush with the sidewall (after the team shaved off some of the original timbers).

The deck was also torn off and replaced. The original stairs remain, as we ran out of daylight. A small work party has been organized to go out October 27th to build a new staircase and add an additional cross brace at the front of the cabin. This party will not be advertised as it does not require many hands.

A tear in the roofing tin was patched. I brought out a new hose for the propane stove, but it was too short. I will send up a longer hose October 27th.

The Mt Murray cabin was also filled with wood for the 2019 season. Shaun Schwartz (who attended every work party this year with his son, Landon) helped fall trees. Wood is stacked under the cabin, with additional wood behind the cabin.

24 volunteers (who all left at various times) = 218 volunteer hours

2 volunteers, 7 hours each = 14 volunteer hours for the propane tank extraction

**Mt Waverly cabin –** Shaun and Landon Schwartz accompanied me to the Waverly cabin on September 16th. No repairs required. Wood filled for the 2019 season.

3 volunteers, 10.5 hours each = 31.5 volunteer hours

**Moncton cabin –** A pair of Brians (Black and Kennelly) took a small group to the Moncton cabin October 18th and cleared deadfall along the way. Brian B reports that the firewood situation is in good shape for a couple more seasons.

4 volunteers, 10 hours each = 40 volunteer hours

**Cariboo Mtn cabin** – September 30th work party was a huge success with 16 volunteers. Ron Watteyne and Jim Crellin arrived early that morning and fixed the ill-fitting door on the wood stove. They also fixed the broken damper so that we have a far more efficient heating situation in the cabin. Ron and Jim stayed all day to help Brian Black replace the cracked foundation blocks under the cabin. All of the cracked blocks were removed and replaced. Firewood was chopped and stacked in the wood shed.  
16 volunteers, 7.5 hours each = 120 volunteer hours

I am very pleased with the great turnout for the backcountry events this fall. It has been great to see so many new faces and listen to the many non-member volunteers excitedly make plans to become members and venture out to the backcountry this year. I feel very supported by you fellow board members, who are willing to keep sharing your time and expertise, despite how slow I am to absorb the information. I appreciate it very much.

I was asked to start keeping track of volunteers who were or were not members last year. What do I do with this information now?

We are still working on perfecting the new online calendar. The calendar works and Shannon did a great job setting it up! The only hurdle is having Barb gain access to the calendar. Hopefully this can be remedied by the ski season.

**Plan for 2018:** Replacement of Mt Murray foundation, Wood chopping at Mt Murray, Mt Waverly and Cariboo Mtn, Assessment of foundation at Cariboo Mtn

Plan for 2019: introduction to backcountry trip, install insulation at Cariboo Mtn cabin, assess repair needs at Moncton cabin, wood chopping/garbage removal at Murray cabin

## **B. Hallis Ski Tournament 2018 (previously known as Elementary School Races).**

We held the 36<sup>th</sup> annual tournament February 17<sup>th</sup> and it was another fantastic day to be a kid skiing. With almost 60 registered kids and nearly 30 volunteers, seven schools or groups locally, from Wells and from Williams Lake were represented in the races.

We opened the races up to older kids this year and will continue to do that inviting anyone school aged to attend and we hope the older age categories grow. Hence renaming our event from the Elementary Ski Races to the Hallis Ski Tournament.

In 2019, CCBC and Cross Country Canada are providing better incentive draw prizes again which will be even more fun for the kids participating who compete for medals in individual races, relay races and the downhill doublecross race while also competing for team trophies earned by accumulating the most points from participants in the groups or schools.

The 2019 race is scheduled February 23, 2019.

## **C. Club Historian. Evi Black.**

40 copies of the Club History were printed and most were sold so there was another order for 10 copies. I am sure there are some around still if anyone is interested in buying one.

## **D. Equipment Report. Jim Cappan.**



## **E. Fundraising Report. Brian Black.**

The Venue Equipment project was completed in late 2017. The focus of this project was to improve the equipment that we use to host events: vee boards, shooting mats and two transport sleds. Financing was from Quesnel Community Foundation \$5000, Community Futures \$2500, Gaming \$1200 and a donation of materials from West Fraser \$1100.

Grant writing in the last year focused on one major project:

**Snow Making Project** \$78,000 to make snow in the core area to be implemented in 2018:

- \$54,635 from Northern Development Initiative Trust
- \$10,000 from the BC Rural Dividend Fund
- \$8000 from the Quesnel Community Foundation

**Operating grants:**

- \$16,500 from Gaming
- \$2000 from CCBC for our Ski School
- \$200 from Rocky Peak, in kind

**Total grants in the 2017-2018 year = \$91,335**

## **F. Loppett.**

## **G. Membership. Greg Strebel.**

## **H. Nordics and Biathlon.**

Biathlon – Jim Crellin, Chris Elden

We had 8 competing athletes and several new young ones learning the basics. The 2017-18 competition season was somewhat compact with four BC Cups, instead of the usual 3, scheduled between late January and early March. Competitions were in Prince George, Whistler, Burns Lake and Kelowna. Part of the team also attended the Northern Teck Series cross country race and regional biathlon event in Vanderhoof.

None of our team chose to attend the BC Winter Games. Only junior athletes were eligible this year.

Claire Elden was named to the BC Talent squad. She attended a number of training camps throughout the off-season.

Ryan Elden, a CSTC alumnus, who now trains at the Whistler Nordic Development Centre, earned a spot on the National Youth team and competed at World Youth Junior Championships in Estonia and Open European Junior Championships in Slovenia. He also competed at Biathlon National Championships in Charlo New Brunswick in March earning a silver medal in the Youth Men's pursuit.

We continued discussions with the Ministry of Forests and the Hallis Pasture Association to have year-round use of the biathlon range area for training and for facility improvements. The improvements would include a permanent target installation and a retaining wall for the shooting platform. No success on either front so far.

The team started the 2018-19 training in October with about 12 committed athletes spanning an age range of 9 to 55. Half of the team is now 12 or younger, but we also have several new older athletes who want to compete. Our rifle supply is in good shape with all juveniles and older (11+ yrs) on biathlon rifles. We also got gaming funding to purchase another Junior Bear rifle stock. These are more adjustable than the regular stocks which allow a better fit.

We plan to set the biathlon range up on November 3 and do some brushing around the biathlon venue in preparation for the BC Cup.

The competition season has been expanded to five BC Cups this year: Whistler, Prince George, **Quesnel (January 18-20)**, Vanderhoof and Kelowna. Nationals will be in Whistler in late March. There is also a World Cup in Canmore, Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, and the World Para-Nordic Championships in Prince George.

Organisation for our BC Cup is underway. We will need a significant number of volunteers to help us host this and will begin contacting people soon. We thank you for your continued support.

## **I. Publicity and Adult Lessons.**

There were a total of 11 adults taking lessons last season for a total of 33 skier lesson days. Due to the fact that there was no early snow and then when the snow arrived it was very cold was a factor in the low numbers. The short season was also a contributor to low numbers. I have been teaching adult ski lessons for 35+ years and have found this a very rewarding and fulfilling volunteer position. Since the opening of the Hallis Lake facility I have been teaching adult lessons in the evenings 2 -3 nights a week at the Open House events, ski school and the Skill Development Program.

In the past 95% of all adult lessons have happened in the evenings but there seems to be a demand for lessons on the weekends. I know this will help grow the club but I'm not able to commit to instructing on weekends. Christine Turlet has come on board as an instructor and we are always looking for other talented skiers to share their expertise with beginner and intermediate skiers. If you feel you have the time and skills to become an instructor the club will help you with your expenses to get your certification through the Canadian Association of Nordic Skiers (CANSI) and your yearly professional dues if you commit to teach for 2 seasons.

5 reasons to Volunteer

- 1- Gain new skills
- 2- Meet new people
- 3- Make a difference
- 4- Give back to the community
- 5- Feel valued and be part of a team

AND TO HAVE FUN!

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer ski instructor please see me after the meeting for more information.

Ron Watteyne  
CSTC Ski Instructor

**J. Rental Shop / Lodge (see Manager's Report above).**

**K. Skill Development Program. Chris Hyde.**

During the 2017/2018 SDP ski season we had 43 kids registered. We used this season as a trial for the YETI program which is geared towards older skiers who aren't interested in competing. This program is more relaxed than Track Attack in that there is more focus on being active than refining ski technique for competitions. This program was well received, and we decided to offer it more publicly for the upcoming season.

We were lucky to have some new coaches and helpers to work along with the well-seasoned coaches. We have some experienced coaches that are taking a break this year, therefore we will be actively recruiting new coaches and/or helpers.

For the upcoming season we want to develop some junior coaches drawing from the biathlon kids and other kids who have gone through the Jackrabbit levels who have an interest in coaching.

Scott, who is one of our coaches came up with the idea of "Hoodies" for the SDP participants. We found some logos and SDP participants were able to purchase these hoodies.

Sunshine, who has been the SDP Coordinator for many years passed the torch to Chris Hyde at the end of the season. Even though she is not the SDP Coordinator anymore she is still actively coaching and supporting the incumbent.

This upcoming season the focus will be on increasing membership and coach development. We have lined up some training in December for coaches and helpers to participate in.

Here is to a fun and snowy 2018/19 season.

**L. Snowshoeing. Evi Black.**

Several snowshoe tours were planned for January but Mother Nature did not co-operate and the significant snowfall did not come until February. Joe Daigle is taking over as the Snowshoe Director and I am sure he has plans for the upcoming season.

**M. Social. Elaine Watteyne.**

**Trekking the Manaslu Circuit, Nepal Friday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Ron Watteyne organized this interesting presentation for the Friday night social. We had 30 people attend. Skiing conditions were excellent for a preshow ski.

**St. Patrick's Day Pub Night Sat. March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

We had 35 people attend with dinner by Jean's Catering of Irish Stew, Potato Pancakes and dessert. Tickets \$35 each. A fun event with a Limerick Contest, Trivia Contest, and a Sing-A-Long with Dougal and the Campfire Singers.

## **N. Trails & Signage AGM Report**

### **Signs:**

1. MFLNRO Recreation erected a Green and white road sign at the entrance of Hallis Lake Road and it was to be adjusted and moved closer to Hydraulic Road in the spring.
2. Concerns with trail damage from the snowmobiles crossing or travelling on the groomed ski trails. Bruce has submitted coordinates for 3 places where snowmobiles could cross our ski trails to access the fields minimizing damage to grooming. Desi and Jayme (MFLNRO) have committed to posting signs, suggested wording: “snowmobiles: cross ski trail here in single file.”
3. The Choroplast signs posted on the FSR main road (South Dog Loop) have deteriorated and will be replaced this season with Aluminum signs.
4. Sponsorship signs on the Kiosk Map are to expire this year and current and potential sponsors are to be approached for renewal. These each bring in \$100/year.

### **Ski trails:**

1. Trail brushing was discussed with MFLNRO, specifically both sides of the fenceline of the SE sides of the South loop and the north fenceline of the North Marathon Loop. Desi discussed trail brushing with the HLCPA Ranchers. Potential benefits for both user groups. The fire suppression crew was busy early and long this summer, it may still happen now or become prioritized for next year. Gerry’s Choice and the Main FSR have since been added to the list to address high use areas needing attention.
2. Cattleguard. It was hoped the last 8’ cattleguard on the FSR past the entrance to Canus Lupus would be replaced with a 12’ cattleguard. Didn’t happen, not sure why.
3. Motorized trail use. Late fall/early winter quad use of the trails causes bad ruts in the roads. They are getting worse every year and make trail grooming difficult in the winter. Hallis Lake FSR is open for vehicle traffic until end of hunting season Dec. 10. Vehicle use on the Hallis Lake FSR, caused by legitimate vehicle traffic when the road is open, is causing ruts. The ruts are getting worse every year and actually widening the road in some places. CSTC identified the worst areas on a map and forwarded the map to Jayme Hills, Recreation Technician for Recreation Sites and Trails MFLNRO for further action. Nothing has yet occurred.
4. Scott Zacharius again contracted and completed the machine mowing/brushing of the ski trail surfaces this fall. Looks good.

### **Snow Shoe Trails:**

1. Wally’s Way additional snowshoe trail development to create a cut-off from the pasture directly to the gate at the top of the hill was okayed by MFLNRO as no timber is to be cut and involves brushing only. This section of trail currently sees little use.

**O. Website Report. Shannon Coffey.**

<https://caribooski.ca>

Last October the decision was made to have South Hill Graphics update the CSTC website using the Wordpress platform. The updated website went live in December 2017. Some of its main features are the events calendar, link to Zone 4 online registration, webcam, and backcountry cabin booking calendar as well as containing all the club information on trails, lessons, rates etc.

The website will always be a work in progress as it is a dynamic document. Please continue to forward information, suggestions, and photos to [shannon.coffey@icloud.com](mailto:shannon.coffey@icloud.com).